

SIDELIGHTS ON MEXICO--SOME QUEER FEATURES OF THE REVOLUTION

BY FRANK G. CARPENTER.

I WANT to give you some sidelights on the Mexican situation. The whole country is changing. Everything is in a state of revolution, and this revolution means more than the fighting which is now going on in so many different quarters.

The country is having an intellectual revolution as well as a physical one. The common people are waking up. The people have begun to think for themselves, and even the rich are changing their ideas as to the value of property. Labor at last is claiming its rights. Within the past few months we have had a big strike on the railways, and a large part of the debates in the Chamber of Deputies is as to the raising of wages and the cutting down of hours of work in the factories.

The Brigands and Bandits.
At the same time the whole republic is in a state of fear as to where trouble will break out next. Many localities have no other means of defense but brigands and bandits commit their outrages with the little fear of the result. They dynamite tunnels, burn bridges and tear up the tracks of the railroads. At this writing nearly every railway system is more or less out of commission.

Silly bands of rebels will hold up a passenger train and go through the pockets of the travelers. If there are soldiers on the train, they may fire upon them without regard to the passengers, and at such times they have no regard for the train employees.

Railway Troubles.
These railway troubles have now extended to most of the roads in the republic. The upper part of the Mexican Central, which runs between El Paso and Mexico City, has been out of commission for more than two years. The conditions were so bad there that the Madero government contemplated making military use of the double walls of steel and sand in the middle. These were to be used for soldiers and were to be traveling fortifications. They were painted in checker-board fashion, the black and white checkers disguising the loop-holes.

The losses have been so great on parts of that road that certain American lines have not let their cars go into Mexico for fear of losing both cars and freight.

The railway situation in the western part of the country has been exceptionally bad. The Southern Pacific lines have been damaged to the extent of millions of dollars, and many of the western roads are now in the hands of the rebels.

As to the National line from Laredo to the Mexican capital, this has been open right along until the last revolution. The only trouble has been the burning of a few bridges, and a small station near and then. But since Madero was killed there has been more or less trouble along that system, and it is only now that the cars are again running regularly.

Hounded From Telegraph Poles.
Late the conditions have been very bad in Southern Mexico and not far from Mexico City. The Zapatistas have committed scores of outrages, burning up haciendas and the cars on great sugar plantations. They have attacked the trains, and both freight and passengers are unsafe. You would naturally think that this would stop travel. It does not. At the hotel registers you may see the names of Americans who are coming in and going out to and from all parts of the republic. The trains are open to the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, Vera Cruz, Guadalajara and to Tampico, Laredo and other places. The only trouble, although it stops now and then, is still going on everywhere. This may be seen by the last report as to exports. This shows that more goods were shipped out of Mexico in 1912 than in 1911. The exports in 1912 were, in round numbers, \$29,000,000, whereas in 1911 they were \$28,000,000.

CULPEPER

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Culpeper, Va., May 24.—Mrs. John Spencer and her daughter, Miss Anne Spencer, of Danville, were here for a few days. Mrs. Spencer is the wife of Mr. John Spencer, who is now in the army. Mrs. Spencer is the daughter of Mr. John Spencer, who is now in the army. Mrs. Spencer is the daughter of Mr. John Spencer, who is now in the army.



A MEXICAN NEWSMAN.



MEXICO CITY POLICEMEN.



DUNN AND CARACRISTI.

The two American correspondents, Mr. Dunn, who sits at the left, was fined \$2,000.

Dunn and Caracristi, both of whom had been expelled as pernicious foreigners.

Mr. Dunn told me how he was arrested one night on his way to the opera, and put into jail without trial. He says that the most of his money and valuables were taken from him, and while in prison, he had trouble getting enough to eat and drink. He was charged \$1 for a glass of water, 50 cents for a package of cigarettes and other things in proportion. He says he had on deposit in one of the leading banks of Mexico City \$2,000, and the Mexican government used him this amount and confiscated it.

After a few days he was taken by armed guards, put on the express train and carried to Laredo, Tex., where he was set down. He was then given a notice that if he came back to Mexico it would be at his peril. Mr. Caracristi was treated in the same manner, with the exception of the fine. He luckily had no money in bank.

I am told here that Mr. Dunn has severely criticized the President in his telegrams to the American papers, and that he has broken the law in sending code telegrams in the guise of market reports out of the country. Mr. Caracristi has also been reported to have broken the law in sending code telegrams to the American papers, and that he has broken the law in sending code telegrams to the American papers.

I understand that a claim will be made against the government in the part of Dunn and Caracristi, as well as claims for other Americans who have been outraged. The charge against them was that they had been serving in the rebel army. The Americans say that their health and lives were endangered by the assassin's conditions of the jail, and understood they put their damages at \$50,000. Twenty-three Americans who were wounded or had relatives killed or maimed by shots across the Mexican border have been reported by our army officers entitled to indemnities aggregating \$85,000, and this will probably be paid. All of these claims were

reduced by the commission from the amount originally asked. In addition to these there are a great many other demands on account of personal damages, and there will be a large amount asked for on account of damages to property. One of the Mexican papers here prints an interview with a prominent American, whose name is not given, in which it is stated that the United States asks 50,000,000 pesos, or \$30,000,000 as an indemnity for the damages caused by American interests here, and suggests that the Mexican government may compromise by giving us Lower California. This suggestion is doubtful, to say the least, although a large part of the mines and lands of that peninsula now belong to Americans.

The Mexicans Dislike Us.
Americans are not popular in Mexico. This is especially so among the middle and higher classes. They are jealous of our success as a nation, and also of our success in making money out of Mexican investments. They realize that some of the best properties in Mexico belong to our people, while they want American capital, they feel sore because we make money out of investing that capital here.

In a suit at law, the American has but little chance with the Mexican without the evidence is altogether in his favor, and if he gets into jail when the right is all on his side. Indeed, the red tape surrounding the law here is such that most foreigners here submit to the police without being involved in petty thefts rather than be involved in the law. The American who had an imbroglio and some hats recently stolen from his front hall. He announced the fact to the authorities, and policemen came and arrested all the servants in the house.

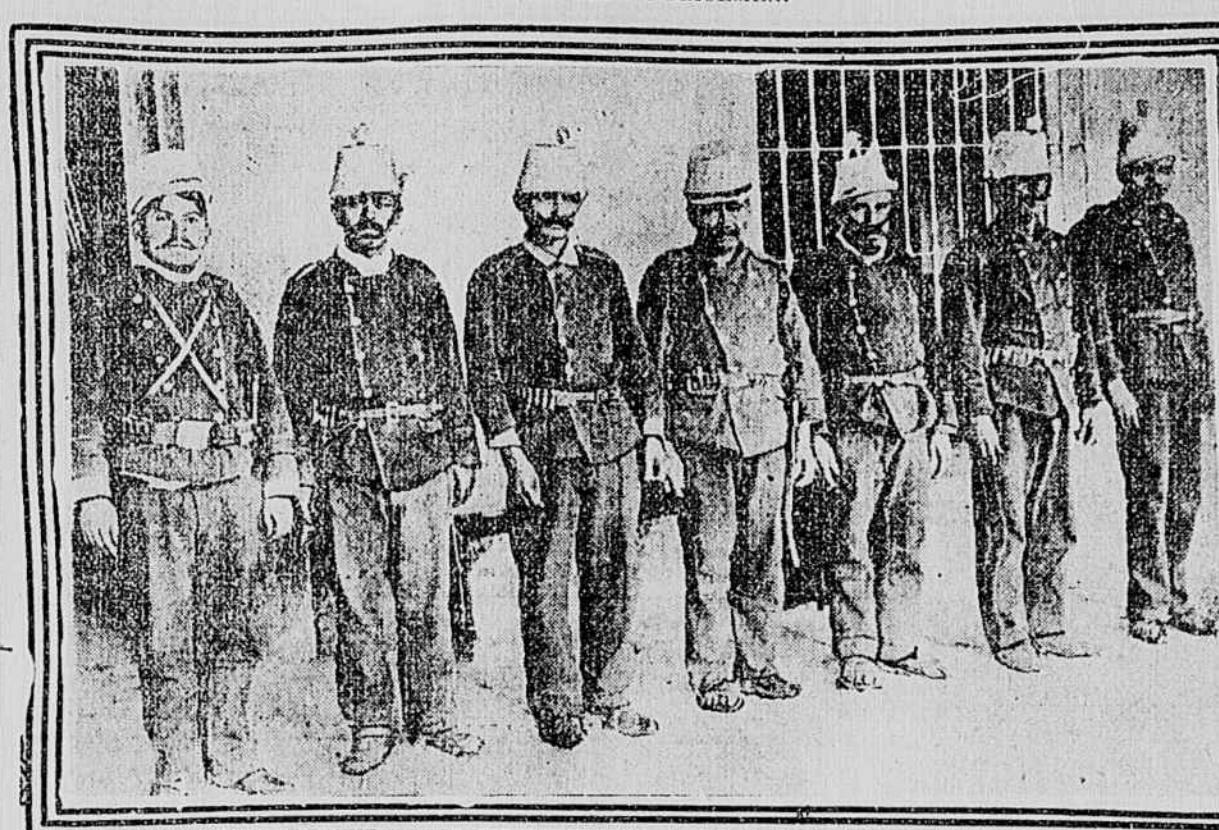
The American was called before the court again and again. He went a half dozen times, and lost many days from his business, and at the end could not save the money he was spending his property than at the beginning. He finally sent word to the judge that it was all a mistake. He had not lost any hats, coats or umbrellas, and he hoped that no further account would be taken of the matter. He had to write this fact on the court book, and the case thereupon was dismissed.

One of the troubles connected with justice in the graft which is universal on the part of the police and other officials, and sometimes judges. Some Americans claim that judges are compelled to give decisions as to important cases by higher officials, and one man who has a big mining claim which is to come before the judge, intimated to me that President Porfirio Diaz had forced the judge to change the decree and decide against him.

One species of graft worked by the police is blackmailing the foreigners through service upon the jury. The foreigners know that if called, they are liable to two or three months of daily sitting in a court room listening to a language they cannot understand. They have also found that they cannot beg off on the plea of not knowing Spanish, for the court will say that if a foreigner is called, the result is that a part of the jury will give all the way from \$10 to \$100 to have himself and his clerk left on the jury list. The policemen know this, and they take the names of foreigners who are living in the city and blackmail them for money.

I was told of one queer blackmailing attempt last night. In this instance one of the grafters saw the sign, "Scott's Emulsion" printed on the window of a drug store, and thought that this must be the name of the American owner. He thereupon went to the court and had Senator Scott's Emulsion put on the jury list. He served his papers, and finding his mistake, came back and said the man was not present.

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THE RANK AND FILE OF THE REVOLUTION.

The United States about the censorship of news dispatches and of the Mexican press. Much of this is true, and it is safe to say that our people have but a mild idea of the situation over the border. At the same time the daily journals of the capital are not at all backward in making criticisms. They denounce Madero and they are handling Huerta and Diaz without gloves. They demanded that Madero retire, and they compared him to Charles I. of England and other rulers of the past.

In a recent editorial as to the existing situation one of the Mexican dailies remarks as follows: "This government is one which plots and the guilt of many and still is unwilling to see its own faults. Let it listen to the words of Mencius, an ancient Chinese politician, who, while conversing with his Emperor questioned him thus: "What do you do with a friend who administers you, business badly?" "I break with him," answered the Emperor. "And with the magistrate who does not carry out your commands?" "He is deposed," said the Emperor. "And if the provinces are badly governed what have you done then?" "The Emperor became deaf and dumb." "The attitude of the Emperor of China is similar to that of the Mexican government. It changes the sub-

ject or refuses to speak every time any one insinuates that it is responsible for the situation. American Newspaper Men in Jail. The above editorial, and many others which I see daily in the Mexican newspapers, might lead one to think that the press is free. I am told, however, that there is a rigid censorship of everything sent out of the country, and that every effort is made to keep the United States in the dark as to the outrages now being perpetrated by the rebels and bandits.

LOUISA

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Louisa, Va., May 24.—The closing exercises of the Louisa High School were held in the Methodist Church Wednesday evening. The speaker of the evening was C. McCall of Richmond College, who was introduced by Edward G. Wainwright. The exercises were presided over by Superintendent T. W. Bittle. County Superintendent W. C. Jones, and Miss Lucy G. Wainwright sang a solo at the close of the exercises.

BRISTOL

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Bristol, Va., May 24.—Mr. and Mrs. Marshall L. Thomas, of this city, announce the betrothal of their daughter, Miss Ida Rebecca, to Max Huntsman Garber. The wedding will be solemnized at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. Robert Doughty, at Knoxville, Tenn., Wednesday, June 12, at 2:30 o'clock.

GALAX

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Galax, Va., May 24.—Mrs. Ella Davis, of Winston-Salem, N. C., is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Davis, east of Galax. Mrs. Davis is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Bourne, of Fries, and is visiting Mrs. Bourne's sister, Mrs. J. P. Carico, this week.

FREELING

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Freeling, Va., May 24.—Mr. and Mrs. Muncy Iron, of Jewell, Ky., are visiting the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Napoleon Vanover, of Freeling. Edgar R. Beverly is at Jenkins, Ky. this week.

PULASKI

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Pulaski, Va., May 24.—Mrs. Elizabeth Caffee, of Pine, has announced the engagement and approaching marriage of her daughter, Miss Nancy Hamilton, to Dr. William Thomas Laprade, of Trinity College, Durham, N. C. The wedding will take place at the family home early in June. Rev. Tyler Frazer, of Chilhowie, delivered

an entertaining lecture Thursday night at the courthouse here. The lecture was being raised by Flora Stuart Chapter, Daughters of the Confederacy, for uniforms for the Confederate soldiers. The lecture was given by Mr. J. B. Jones, of the University of Virginia.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Berryville, Va., May 24.—Mrs. Frank Kerfoot and children of Oklahoma, are visiting relatives here. Mrs. Kerfoot is the wife of Mr. Frank Kerfoot, of Oklahoma.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Lawrenceville, Va., May 24.—Robert Strange, son of Bishop Strange, of North Carolina, is the guest of his uncle, Mr. Strange, of Lawrenceville. Mr. Strange is the son of Mr. Strange, of North Carolina.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Norwood, Va., May 24.—Mrs. Frank Kerfoot and children of Oklahoma, are visiting relatives here. Mrs. Kerfoot is the wife of Mr. Frank Kerfoot, of Oklahoma.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Marion, Va., May 24.—Professor R. F. Coppenhaver, who for the past twelve years has served this county as district supervisor, has been elected to the same position for another term. Professor Coppenhaver has served in this position for twelve years.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Montvale, Va., May 24.—Mrs. Frank Kerfoot and children of Oklahoma, are visiting relatives here. Mrs. Kerfoot is the wife of Mr. Frank Kerfoot, of Oklahoma.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Westmoreland Candy Co. Manufacturers, Richmond, Va.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
DROPS TREATED. Quick relief, swelling, short breath, cough, etc. Offered on credit. 25 days. Trial treatment FREE. Write Dr. H. H. Green, Box 5, Atlanta, Ga.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Can Cancer Be Cured? IT CAN. The record of the Kellam Hospital is without parallel in history, having cured to stay cured permanently, without the use of the knife or X-ray, over 90 per cent of the many hundreds of sufferers from cancer which it has treated during the past fifteen years.

We have been endorsed by the Senate and Legislature of Virginia. We guarantee our cures. Physicians treated free. Kellam Hospital 1617 West Main Street, RICHMOND, - - - VIRGINIA.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Feller, on Cedar Avenue, have returned to Baltimore. Mr. Feller is the son of Mr. Feller, of Baltimore.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Onancock, Va., May 24.—Robert McCormick is home from his tour of duty. Mr. McCormick is the son of Mr. McCormick, of Onancock.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Onancock, Va., May 24.—Mrs. John Maughlin, of Portsmouth, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Maughlin, of Onancock.

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